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02355.011107

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: R. Yang
Kiyohide SATO, ET AL.)
: Group Art Unit: 2672
Application No.: 09/506,382)
:
Filed: February 18, 2000)
:
For: MARKER LAYOUT METHOD,) March 17, 2003
: MIXED REALITY APPARATUS,)
: AND MIXED REALITY SPACE)
: IMAGE GENERATION METHOD)

RECEIVED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAR 17 2003

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed.

The Japanese document was cited in an Office Action issued March 10, 2003 on counterpart Japanese patent application 11-164717. A copy of that Office Action is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

The cited U.S. patent is an English-language counterpart to the cited Japanese document. The Japanese document is directed to detecting a motion vector in a moving

picture. It discloses, e.g., in the third embodiment, putting a marker seal 45 on a principal object (e.g., a human face) and detecting a motion vector based on the image of the marker in the moving picture. It also discloses erasing the marker image using image processing. With respect to Claims 1, 20, and 21, Applicants submit that the Japanese document does not disclose or suggest at least the feature wherein markers to be used only by a given player are laid out at positions hidden by real objects when the markers are observed from the other player.” With respect to Claims 15, 16, 18, and 19, that document does not disclose or suggest at least the feature of correcting location/posture information of a player based on markers detected.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

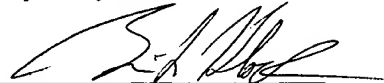
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner, that the next official communication indicate that such information has been considered, and that the Examiner initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 indicating that the information listed thereon has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.

office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. L. Klock", written over a horizontal line.

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